

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/880,964

Examiner

Lucas Divine

Applicant(s)

MASAKI ET AL.

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 4/20/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-6, 8-11 and 13-15 renumbered claims 1-12.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 20 April 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

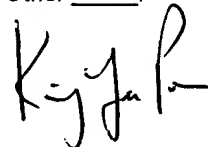
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

KING Y. POON
PRIMARY EXAMINER



EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. William Rowland on July 7, 2005.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 6:

On page 4 line 5 of claim 6, remove phrase 'or in the processed data'. Detector limitation now should read: ---a detector which detects whether data of a specified pattern is included in the input data, in parallel to the data processing by said output device; and---

In claim 13:

On page 7 lines 1-2 of claim 13, add the phrase "computer readable" between A and storage. Prelude should now read: ---A computer readable storage medium storing a computer-executable program comprising the steps of:---

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 2 – 6, 8 – 11, and 13 – 15 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 2 is directed to an image processor that stops the output of processing of data when specific patterns are detected. Claim 8 is a print system including the processor of claim 2.

Claim 13 is a computer-readable medium including program steps that the processor of claim 2 performs. Claim 15 is a method including method steps that the processor of claim 2 performs.

These claims identify the uniquely distinct features of generating a random timing and stopping the output of processed data at a random timing. The closest prior art Owada et al. (US

6108098) applied in the non-final action teaches a printing system including a processor that detects specified patterns and stops the output of data at irregular timings (as previously shown).

Owada et al., either singularly or in combination with cited references, fails to anticipate or render the above unique limitations obvious when used with other claimed limitations.

Claim 6 is directed to an image processor for preparing print data that detects specified patterns, stops the output of processed data at an irregular timing when a pattern is detected, and feeds a sheet of paper reversely when the pattern is detected. Claim 10 is a print system including the processor of claim 6. These claims identify the uniquely distinct features of reversing the feed of a sheet of paper after detecting a specific pattern and stopping the output of the processed data. The closest prior art Owada et al. (US 6108098) applied in the non-final action teaches a printing system including a processor that detects specified patterns and stops the output of data at irregular timings (as previously shown). Owada et al., either singularly or in

Art Unit: 2624

combination with cited references, fails to anticipate or render the above unique limitations obvious when used with other claimed limitations.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lucas Divine whose telephone number is 571-272-7432. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:30am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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Art Unit 2624

Application/Control Number: 09/880,964

Page 5

Art Unit: 2624

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